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UCAPAWA News

UNITED CANNERY, AGRICULTURAL, PACKING AND ALLIED WORKERS OF AMERICA-CIO

VOL. II—No. 13

MARCH 11, 1942

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INDEX

	Page
Oil and Compress Division	3
President Henderson's Column	4
Tobacco Division	5
Fruit and Vegetable Division	7
Field Workers' Division	8

LOCAL RAISES $5,000

VICTORY SMILES are displayed by the officers of Local 120, Quaker Oats, Akron, Ohio, following a 426 to 82 election win. Seated (l. to r.) Ray Rowles, President; Elizabeth Loudon, Shop Steward; Standing (l. to r.) Ruth Hoffman, Secretary; Ed Hoffman, Vice-President; Ed Kuhn, Treasurer.

Plant Works Extra Day; All Pay to Red Cross

Los Angeles, Feb. 28—With huge Red Cross banners flying from the plants, 794 people proudly went into work an extra day at the California Walnut Growers Association plants ("Diamond" walnuts), for a "shell-out" for the Red Cross. Walnut Division of Local 3 and the company sponsored Red Cross Day jointly. All pay for the day's work from both production and supervisory employees, totalling about $5,000, will go to the War Emergency Campaign fund, of which Los Angeles is pledged to raise two and one-half million dollars.

WEAR WHITE UNIFORMS

Each worker received a white uniform for the day, instead of the usual tan one, and a Red Cross button and sticker. Only nine workers missed work, which is less than one-half the number ordinarily out each day.

"The workers and supervisory personnel beamed at work," reports UCAPAWA International Representative Luisa Moreno. "Never before have I seen so Shop Stewards and Sister Moreno, to both production and supervisory employees.

PLEDGE: "NUTS TO AXIS"

Asking everyone to sign a pledge list to work on Red Cross Day, the call ended with the promise to Hitler and his buddies: "We'll put this job over with a NUTS to the Axis."

The walnut workers and the management kept this promise, with enthusiasm and unity.

Yesterday there was a big noon day rally in the plant addressed by both CIO and management speakers.

PRAISE FROM HENDERSON

"UCAPAWA is more proud than ever of its 'walnut members,'" said Donald Henderson, "Local 3 has done a good job in building a strong local. Now the walnut workers come through with a splendid 'For Victory' job. Many of our locals are plugging at war work. But we can all give a special hand to the walnut workers for putting in a whole day together and turning that day's hard earned wages in to the Red Cross."

Henderson emphasized that we "appreciate the cooperation which the California Walnut Growers Association is giving, for out of such cooperation will grow a strong national unity which will insure victory."

"R" DAY AT CAL-SAN

At the Cal-San Cannery, the other big unit of Local 3, the union committee is registering the members for civilian defense at regularly scheduled "R" days. On the first "R" day, 76 men and women signed up during their lunch hour at the long table set up by the Local in front of the plant.

Three members of the CIO Council of Women's Auxiliaries, Acting Chairman Jack O'Brien, Bill Phillips, Cannery War Work Director and Sister Moreno worked at top speed taking registration.

UNANIMOUS UNION SUPPORT

Following a unanimous vote for "Red Cross Day" at a Walnut Division union meeting some weeks ago, arrangements were worked out with the management by the shop committee. Chief Stewards O. H. "Doc" Johnston and Kathryn Massoud headed the drive for the union.

Contribution of the management consists in working both plants full crews on Saturday for which time and one-half overtime, according to contract terms, must be paid.

COMPANY COOPERATES

"Red Cross Day" was launched by distribution of a joint statement over a week ago which explained that, "Arrangements for our big Red Cross Day have been made . . . for a great cause in which each of us will be proud to play a part . . . We'll show what patriotic union members and their employer can accomplish when they put their shoulders to the same wheel"

Signed by both W. T. Webber, Secretary and Sales Manager, for the California Walnut Growers Association and by Luisa Moreno, for UCAPAWA, the leaflet was distributed in the plants by the

UCAPAWA Landslide At Akron Quaker Oats

Akron, Ohio.—Workers at the Quaker Oats plant here turned in a 426 to 82 vote for UCAPAWA-CIO on Feb. 19. This was a case of turning defeat into victory, for last year the CIO local at the plant lost an election.

"This CIO victory," said Donald Henderson, UCAPAWA President, "means that Quaker Oats workers are lined up almost solidly in the CIO. Last September our local in Cedar Rapids, Iowa signed its first contract at the mill there, which is the biggest cereal plant in the world.

FOURTH QUAKER PLANT

"Soon afterward, Depew, N. Y. Quaker workers organized and signed a UCAPAWA contract. A few weeks ago Quaker workers in the Memphis, Tenn., plant voted four to one for UCAPAWA. Now the Akron Quaker workers will be negotiating their first UCAPAWA-CIO contract."

STAGED COMEBACK

Credit for the Akron win goes largely to the active CIO members in the plant here who steadfastly held together their organization following a three-to-one defeat of their CIO Local Industrial Union in an election last year. In November, 1941, the Local Industrial Union at Quaker Oats here affiliated with UCAPAWA.

LOYAL TO UCAPAWA even though she is a supervisory employee, Elizabeth Loudon is an active shop steward of Local 120, Quaker Oats, Akron, which just won a five-to-one Labor Board vote.

FLASH!

Settlement of the famous P. Lorillard, Middletown, Ohio case, is a smashing victory for Local 55 (Tobacco Division), which has battled six years for unionism, against heavy odds.

Dues must be checked off by the Company from every worker in the plant. For non-members this payment is a union service charge. A panel of the U. S. Dept. of Conciliation made the proposals on disputed points which were finally accepted.

Full story in next issue.

WILL WINN (Berlin's Underground Trade Union Leader) By Burton & Knell

THE S.A. TROOPERS HAVE DISCOVERED THE LATEST MEETING PLACE OF THE BERLIN TRADE-UNION COUNCIL !
THE "RAT TRAP" IS ALL SET, PUT YOUR MASK ON... WE DON'T WANT THOSE LIKE TO RECOGNIZE US...!
O.K.! I WILL
THE "RAT-TRAP" IS AN ELECTRICAL HOT-FOOT.....
HEIL HITLER! WE GOT YUH! OUCH
SORRY WE CAN'T STAY TO SEE THE SHOW! RATZIS!
OUCH!
RHYSSENAU
THERE'S TWO THINGS I HATE ABOUT THIS PLACE- THE WAGES AND THE WORKING CONDITIONS!
SH! PASS THE WORD ALONG. WE MEET AT PLACE NO. 15... SOMETHING'S HAPPENED- HURRY!!!
TO BE CONTINUED.....

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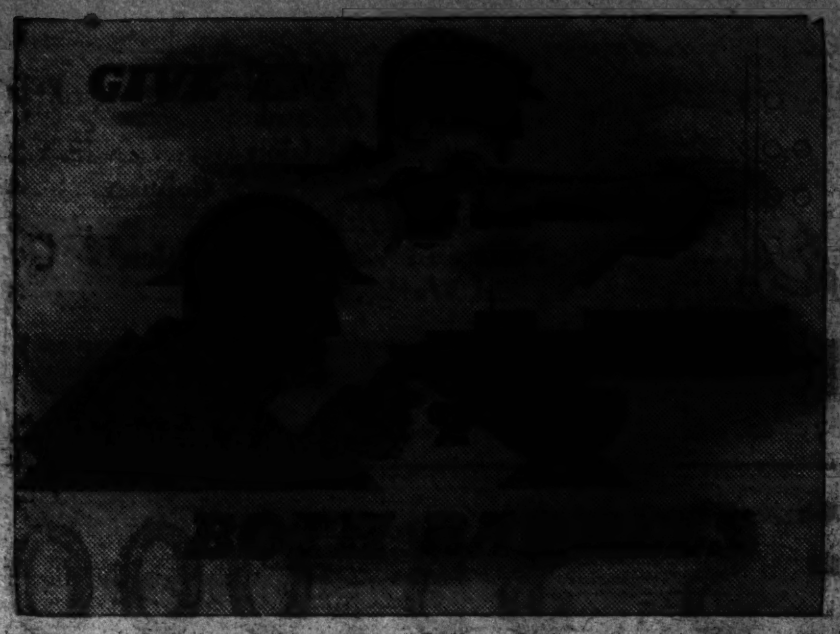

THIS HANDSOME BLUE AND YELLOW POSTER has been sent, together with another poster, to the Presidents of all local unions. The International suggested that the posters be placed in the plants, in local halls, and in homes. Additional posters may be had FREE simply by writing: Division of Information, Office for Emergency Management, Washington, D. C.

NOTES FROM LOCALS

64 United Fish Cannery Workers Local 64 in San Diego, California, is doing its bit for the U. S. O. by setting up a committee to entertain the CIO boys in the Army. Committee members are Frank Parker, Betty Jo Hatcher, Rhoda Barnes, Mrs. Kennel and Paul Davis.

Brother Dixie Tiller, former Local 64 Business Agent is in charge of the UCAPAWA organizing drive in Imperial Valley and related areas.

69 Press Agent for Local 69 in Limo, Ohio, reports the end of the first Red Cross class in First Aid which is run in the factory; advance class to start March 18.

Bro. Lawrence Stombaugh was called on a defense job at Artkraft Sign Co. (See page 5 for other news from this local.)

70 Lula Horn has been elected Vice-President of Local 70, South Side plant of Deisel-Wemmer-Gilbert, Lima, O. New Chaplain is Rudy Catlett and Press Agent, Meldene Smith.

71 Members of Local 71, Deisel-Wemmer-Gilbert in Van Wert, Ohio, who attended the Victory Dance in the Local 69 hall in Lima were Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Williams and daughter Rachel, Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Winters, Harold Johnson, Ruth Davis, Marjorie Stumphley, Wilmert Murphy and Mr. and Mrs. Jake Jenkins and sister-in-law whose husband is serving in the Army.

75 Members of the 27-man committee which is negotiating the first CIO compress contracts in Houston. (story in last issue of the NEWS) are: from Gulf Compress: Mack Anderson, Spokesman, and A. C. Gates, Ben Edwards, Dave Johnson, Tommie Snow and Frank Clemons; from Terminal Warehouse: Claude G. Suarez, Spokesman, and C. L. McConico, Ernest Knight, Nesbett Hooper and Bennie Nava; from Houston Compress: Richard Franco, Spokesman, and Robert Mullins, A. T. Marshall, Johnnie Smith, Sam Costilla, L. G. Comacho, Anthony Garcia, Nathaniel Woods and Marcine Manning; and from Independent Compress: Jack Richardson, Spokesman, and Will Earl, Sam Pollard, Henry Buncum and M. B. Hicks.

Officers of the Local 75, United Cotton Compress and Oil Workers Union in Houston, Texas are: Robert Mullins, Pres.; Richard Franco, A. T. Marshall and L. G. Comacho, Vice-Presidents; Frank Carson, Rec. Secy.; Antonio Garcia, Fin. Secy.; Curtis Sholars, Treas.; and Edward Pluett, Doorkeeper.

194 Two new officers of Local 194, Chicago, are Carlton Rothgery, Pres., and James Horn, Vice-Pres. Local 194 includes Campbell's Soup, Chase and Sanborn and Stephens Vinegar.

297 "The idea of 'Let George do it' must have struck all our members at the same time," writes Press Agent Art Lemle for 297 in Toledo, "for our last meeting was very poorly attended." Bro. Lemle warns that this must not happen again "during these trying times." (Editor's note: By the time this NEWS is out we trust the record of this poor meeting will have been wiped off the slate by a big membership turn-out at the March meeting.)

350 Ella B. Betts, Vice-President of Local 350 in Richmond, Va., has been invited to visit in Pittsburgh this Summer at the home of an CIO member who heard Sister Betts speak at the CIO Convention two years ago. The friend from Pittsburgh writes that Sister Betts by her splendid speeches could help inspire CIO people in her city.

638 Best wishes for a speedy recovery were sent to Sister Bessie Metzger who has broken her knee cap. Action was taken at a membership meeting of tobacco Local 638 in Lancaster, Pa. as a token of appreciation for the splendid work Sister Metzger has done in recruiting many new members for the local. Sister Metzger until a few weeks ago was an AFL shop steward.

NEW LOCALS

TOBACCO DIVISION
COTTON PROCESSING DIVISION

95 Trenton, N. J.—Rose Joyce Locenco, Fin. Sec., 316 Perry St. Other officer: Jolan Berta, Rec. Sec'y.

Companies: American Tobacco Co.; Delaware Valley Farmers Coop. Assn., Inc.

COTTON SEED OIL AND COMPRESS DIVISION

109 Forrest City, Ark.—Names of officers cannot be disclosed because of union repression in this area.

Company: Forrest City Cotton Oil Mill.

Building the Local

The last column on Building the Local started off the discussion of the Job of Shop Stewards. This column continues that subject with:

SHOULD GRIEVANCES BE WRITTEN OUT?

No union can carry on businesslike collective bargaining unless its shop stewards and members are trained to write grievances fully and accurately. The difference between success and failure in grievances which are to be appealed is often to be found in the completeness and accuracy of the facts set down on the grievance slip.

Remember, as you write out a grievance, that it may be negotiated by union representatives who will depend almost entirely on the information you give them in fighting for a fair settlement with the company. Your facts are their ammunition. **Don't send your negotiators in with wet powder.**

GRIEVANCE SLIPS

All grievance slips should call for at least the following information:

1. A statement of the grievance. Give full facts—the names of the people involved, seniority standing, etc. Describe the basic facts in the case clearly and as briefly as possible.
2. Reference to the clause of the contract which has been violated.
3. Claim of contract violation.
4. Request for adjustment of grievance.

Shop stewards should be given practice in writing out grievances correctly and fully, on the forms in use for their plant. This should be repeated until the representatives know the procedure from A. to Z.

All grievances must be signed by the person or persons who are entering the grievance, as well as by the shop steward who is handling it.

Editor's Letter

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

Full information on how to get UCAPAWA NEWS free for all paid up members has been sent to all Local Unions, as well as another appeal for each and every Local to get a press agent into action.

Local Unions should not content themselves with reading only UCAPAWA NEWS to inform themselves on issues and events in the Labor Movement. The NEWS is of first importance to us because it tells of our own union and parcelling of the broader CIO and national issues which affect us all. But we must not neglect CIO publications put out for the benefit of all 41 unions affiliated to it.

First of all, there is the CIO NEWS which comes out weekly. Officers and members in many locals read and study CIO NEWS. Locals which do not already see this paper should immediately subscribe so that at least their Executive Board members will have labor news which is usually suppressed or distorted in the regular papers.

Each subscription costs $1.00 a year, from CIO NEWS, 1106 Connecticut Ave., Washington, D. C.

Samples of the most recent CIO pamphlets have been sent to all industrial local union presidents, together with a letter calling special attention to the importance of this material, and urging every local to develop a program of discussion and study around the subjects covered, which are:

1. The CIO's program for fair wages, fair taxes and union security. ("Labor's Way to Victory.")
2. The CIO's position on labor unity.

With the aid of these pamphlets there is no reason why every UCAPAWA member should not be thoroughly posted on these important subjects.

War posters have also been sent to every Local Union Press Agent, with a request that more copies be ordered to be put up in local union halls and in the plants.

Another good war poster is "The Knock-Out Blow" which may be had free simply by writing Division of Information, War Department, Washington, D. C.

Material for the next issue of UCAPAWA NEWS must be in by March 17.

Fraternally yours,
Connie Anderson.

DOPE ON COST OF LIVING

By January 15, 1942 living costs were 11 percent higher than in January a year ago and 13½ percent higher than in August 1939, the month immediately preceding the outbreak of the war. Between the middle of December (1941) and the middle of January (1942) cost of living rose 1.3 percent.

Below we print in some detail the official cost of living figures of the U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics since these figures enter into contract and wage discussions in many of our locals.

In using these figures we should keep the following points well in mind:

1. While they are the official figures and the best available to us, they are by no means perfect. The cost of living index reflects average costs of all kinds of living expenses, food, clothing, rent, transportation, etc. But the government does not price every product, nor can it price the exact purchases of every family. It takes what it believes to be typical prices for the **average** family.

2. The CIO has never consented to the idea that wages should be tied to the cost of living. But we do believe that wages must at least keep step with increases in living costs, otherwise we would actually be taking cuts in real wages.

3. The index is based on changes from the 1935 through 1939 average level, which is taken as 100. The index does not measure differences in living costs as between cities.

4. Regardless of changes in cost of living, total annual wages for most workers are much too low. As a rough test of this we print the minimum cost of living on Sept. 15, 1941. This is what the government calls "Estimated Cost of Living for a 4-Person Manual Worker's Family at Maintenance Level." It is an extremely low figure which does not provide an adequate American standard of living. It is the level below which, according to the government, an American family should under no circumstances fall.

	Average of All Large Cities	Chicago	Cleveland	Denver	Detroit	Houston	Indianapolis	Los Angeles	Memphis	Milwaukee	Minneapolis	New Orleans	New York	Philadelphia	Richmond	San Francisco
Jan. 15, 1942	111.9	111.9	114.6	111.2	114.5	112.4	—.—	110.4	—.—	—.—	111.8	—.—	110.1	110.5	—.—	113.2
Dec. 15, 1941	110.5	110.6	113.3	109.4	112.7	111.4	113.3	112.3	111.1	109.4	110.7	113.5	108.7	108.8	110.1	111.3
Nov. 15, 1941	110.2	111.0	112.9	109.7	112.5	111.2	—.—	111.1	—.—	—.—	110.7	—.—	108.7	108.8	—.—	110.8
Oct. 15, 1941	109.3	110.2	111.7	108.8	111.8	110.1	—.—	109.8	—.—	—.—	110.1	—.—	108.0	108.0	—.—	109.4
Sept. 15, 1941	108.1	109.6	110.9	106.0	109.6	107.9	109.7	108.1	108.3	106.8	109.0	110.9	106.9	106.7	107.4	107.8
Aug. 15, 1941	106.2	106.8	109.0	104.9	107.5	105.8	—.—	106.6	—.—	—.—	107.3	—.—	105.5	104.7	—.—	106.3
July 15, 1941	105.3	106.1	107.1	103.9	107.1	105.0	—.—	105.7	—.—	—.—	106.3	—.—	104.8	103.7	—.—	105.7
June 15, 1941	104.6	104.8	106.2	102.9	106.4	104.0	105.6	105.6	103.5	103.6	105.6	105.6	104.5	103.8	103.0	105.4
May 15, 1941	103.9	103.2	104.3	101.6	103.5	103.5	—.—	104.4	—.—	—.—	103.9	—.—	103.3	101.7	—.—	104.2
April 15, 1941	103.2	102.5	103.6	101.1	103.4	103.2	—.—	103.2	—.—	—.—	102.7	—.—	102.3	100.5	—.—	103.5
March 15, 1941	101.2	101.5	102.9	99.9	102.2	102.3	102.2	103.5	100.2	99.5	103.1	103.1	101.5	99.5	100.0	102.3
Feb. 15, 1941	100.8	101.3	102.2	99.5	101.8	101.9	—.—	101.8	—.—	—.—	101.9	—.—	101.3	99.2	—.—	102.2
Jan. 15, 1941	100.8	101.3	102.1	99.8	101.1	101.9	—.—	102.3	—.—	—.—	101.5	—.—	101.1	99.3	—.—	102.1
Sept. 15, 1939	100.6	100.7	101.7	99.7	100.2	101.6	99.7	101.9	100.4	99.1	101.2	102.9	102.3	99.6	99.9	101.9
June 15, 1939	98.6	98.9	100.3	99.2	99.1	100.1	98.4	100.3	99.1	97.5	100.1	98.7	98.2	96.9	97.4	99.2
Minimum cost of living for family, per year, on Sept. 15, 1941		$1,586	$1,518	$1,381	$1,568	$1,390	$1,409	$1,418	$1,425	$1,500	$1,516	$1,398	$1,589	$1,448	$1,437	$1,581

Note: Should you have any question about these figures, have them in which we believe our members are most concerned. Should your Local Union write the International Office. Figures are available for 21 cities monthly and for a total of 34 cities, four times a year. We have not printed the entire list of big cities, but only of living in the United States.

IN ACTION BEHIND THE COUNTER is Virgie Adams, serving hot dogs and soft drinks to some of the delegates to a meeting of the Memphis area locals. First project of the new Local 19 Ladies' Auxiliary was to see that this refreshment was on hand during the conference. Ida Scott at the far left became the bride of E. T. Hughes, member of UCAPAWA's Advisory Board, at a brief ceremony before the conference delegates. Sister Scott and Brother Hughes are old school chums who wanted a "UCAPAWA wedding." Rev. Owen H. Whitfield, UCAPAWA Vice-President, married the hughes'. Mrs. Whitfield is pictured holding the youngest Whitfield child.

Win Union Shop, Hiring In First Arkansas Pact

Memphis, Tenn.—First contract to be signed by UCAPAWA in Arkansas provides for a 33⅓ percent wage increase, paid vacations, and for full union security, including a check-off and hiring through the union. These and other provisions would make this an excellent first contract any place in the United States. For the South, it is outstanding.

Unusual and significant feature of the contract is that June 19, Emancipation Day, marking Negro freedom from slavery, is among the seven holidays listed for which time and one-half must be paid for holiday work.

MILESTONE IN PROGRESS

"This contract with the Arkansas Fertilizer Co. is an important step forward in the CIO drive to organize the South and thereby sweep away 30c wages and arbitrary boss rule," said UCAPAWA Secretary-Treasurer Harold J. Lane at a meeting of the Memphis area locals held last week-end here. "A year ago such progress as we are making would have seemed impossible. Today we can say with confidence that UCAPAWA is here to stay in the Memphis area."

26 UCAPAWA PLANTS

Partly as the result of 10 NLRB elections won since the first of the year, UCAPAWA now has 19 organized plants in Memphis, three in No. Little Rock, Ark. (one of which is the Arkansas Fertilizer), three in Helena, Ark., and one in Jackson, Tenn. Contract negotiations are currently under way in 12 plants, including the big Buckeye Cotton Oil Mill here which employs some 1,100 workers.

PREACHER LEADS

Credit for successful organization at Arkansas Fertilizer goes largely to Rev. Cato Conley, Pastor of St. Stephens church, who works in the plant, and to these new trade unionists who voted unanimously for UCAPAWA-CIO, then stood solidly together during negotiations.

"I know my people and I know the CIO is what they need," said Conley. "We done more to sanctify the boss then any preacher ever done. From here we will see to it that other Negro and white workers in this territory have a chance to organize for a better way of life."

Increasing wages from 30c to 40c an hour means some $16 more per month in each pay envelope. The workers figure, $1 for union dues, $15 for better living and to keep up with the increasing cost of living. As one worker said, "the CIO ain't a wolf-in'."

OVERTIME AFTER 8 HOURS

The contract throughout is a solid union document, including in addition to pay increases and union hiring, time and one-half for overtime after eight hours, as well as after 40 hours in one week, and for Sunday and holiday work, pay for four hours when called in and work is available, good seniority and grievance provisions, seniority maintenance for service men, two days' vacation after one year's service, one week for two years' service and two weeks' vacation for three or more years' service, and generous provision for leaves of absence for union work.

Otis G. Nation, UCAPAWA International Representative and President of the recently formed Greater Little Rock CIO Council, assisted the Local in organizing and in negotiating the contract.

Buckeye Case to WLB; Combat Attack on CIO

Memphis.—Following certification of the dispute between Local 19 and Buckeye Cotton Oil Mills (Proctor and Gamble subsidiary) by the War Labor Board, a high pressure labor-smearing campaign has been started by cotton business men here.

FIRST TENN. WLB CASE

"The Buckeye case is the first case in Tennessee to be taken up by the War Labor Board," comments International Representative Bill Haber. "The bosses here are scared to death that some government action might take place to break down their miserable wage scales."

The anti-CIO campaign is in the form currently used by many newspapers: labor is pictured as lazy and greedy, in contrast to the boys who are fighting and dying. A letter on the front page of the Memphis Commercial Appeal set off the campaign.

COTTON BOSSES HOWL

The letter "reflects our views perfectly," said John Sneed Williams, head of the Williams Cotton Co. ". . . it didn't take a few of us long to get together and start the ball rolling to give it the nation-wide publicity it deserves."

The cotton men, reports the Appeal, immediately prepared to send copies of the editorial-letter to all newspapers in the United States. Apparently Congressmen were also covered, for on March 2 the letter was read into the Congressional Record by Representative Gathings of Arkansas, amidst a chorus of approval and anti-labor blasts from Southern Poll Tax Congressmen.

VOTED TO STRIKE

The Buckeye dispute is simply a matter of wanting a fair union contract, following the NLRB election last October when UCAPAWA won bargaining rights by a vote of 713 to 375.

Harrassed by negotiation stalls, firings and speed-up, Buckeye workers on Feb. 25 voted unanimously to strike. They consented to withold strike action pending action from the War Labor Board. Notice that the Board would handle the case came several days after the strike vote.

Buckeye workers are sick of struggling along on wages as low as $16 a week. Neither do the workers care to continue longer without union protection against having their "bread cut plum off," or being saddled with a 2-man job.

WIRE PROTEST TO GOVT.

Following the anti-labor barrage in the Appeal, International Representatives Harry Koger, William Haber and Robert Sanford wired the WLB, putting the business men on the spot for "intense pressure on workers," actions which have "outraged workers of many Memphis plants."

About 1100 work in the two Memphis Buckeye plants, and another 150 in the North Little Rock, Ark., plant where UCAPAWA also has bargaining rights.

TWO GREAT NEGRO UNION LEADERS meet in Memphis to address the CIO Council there, giving the lie to Boss Crump who boasted several years ago that "there would be no CIO in the city of Memphis." Ferdinand C. Smith (left), Secretary of the National Maritime Union, stands with UCAPAWA Vice-President Owen H. Whitfield outside the Local 19 hall.

Historic Meet Held In Memphis

Memphis.—Over 200 local union delegates attended the UCAPAWA Memphis area conference in the new, brightly decorated hall of Local 19 here.

CHRIST A WORKER

Rev. Owen D. Whitfield, UCAPAWA Vice-President, inspired the conference by preaching that UCAPAWA-CIO is laying down its policy "right close to the Bible."

"Christ was a worker who found His followers among busy fishermen in their old, smelly clothes. Religion means the love of God and the Brotherhood of Man. In UCAPAWA we are all brothers," said Whitfield.

BOSS RULE DOOMED

Citing UCAPAWA's almost unbelievable success in this area in the past year, Secretary-Treasurer Harold J. Lane concluded that the days of arbitrary boss rule and of 30 and 40 cent wages are on the way out. He sounded a fighting note for the future by emphasizing that "there is still much to be done—a Union is not built in a day. UCAPAWA members have only begun to plug on the Union job."

WAGE GOALS SET

Wage recommendations of the cotton compress and oil mill committees were unanimously adopted. Rates were set according to job, ranging from 52 to 59 cents for oil mills with 24 or more presses, and from 60 to 85 cents for compresses.

On the motion of the agricultural local from Mississippi County, the conference praised the Farm Security Administration for its efforts to help underprivileged sharecroppers and farmers get on their feet, and strongly urged "not only continuation of FSA, but expasion" of its program."

New Local Starts Paper, Stewards Study

Houston, Texas.—Activities of Local 75, the new compress and oil mill local here are expanding.

A regular shop paper carrying news of UCAPAWA in Houston is being issued by the Publicity Committee under the chairmanship of Will Earl.

SHOP STEWARD CLASSES

Shop Stewards are taking part in the CIO's city-wide Shop Steward Conference for War Production. Classes for shop stewards are scheduled to begin soon for the purpose of studying collective bargaining, and especially the terms of the contract in the four compresses which is now being negotiated. In this way the stewards will train themselves for efficient service on the job in behalf of the membership.

The work of collecting money for smokes, razor blades and other gifts for members in the armed forces is going forward under the direction of Tommie Snow, as previously reported in the NEWS.

Nation Made 'Prexy' Of New CIO Council

Little Rock, Ark.—Otis G. Nation, International Representative, has been elected President of the newly formed provisional CIO Council for Greater Little Rock.

Other UCAPAWA members who are officers of the Council are George Homan, First Vice-President and Cato Conley, Treasurer.

Nine locals of four international unions are represented in the Council. Formation of the Council is a milestone in the CIO organizing drive in the area which began from scratch only last September.

DRIVEN OUT OF HELENA, ARK., in September by vigilantes, union organizers testified at the Grand Jury in Little Rock. In the face of water tight evidence of illegal actions by the vigilantes, the Grand Jury nevertheless refused to bring an indictment of those guilty. Ted Doktor, Woodworkers' Representative (left) is with UCAPAWA International Representative Bill Haber, who came 1,000 miles to appear before the Jury. Others who testified to threats of violence in Helena were Harry Koger of UCAPAWA, and his daughter Mary Lou Koger.

"The Hopes of Civilization Rest on the Worthy Banners of the Courageous Russian Army . . ." *—Gen. Douglas MacArthur*

—From the St. Louis Post-Dispatch

WE MUST AID THE RUSSIAN ARMY

When General MacArthur said that "the hopes of civilization rest on the worthy banners of the courageous Red Army," he was telling us a truth upon which we must ACT.

RUSSIAN WAR RELIEF

We can help the Red Army directly and immediately in their great offensive which may mean a decisive defeat for Hitler, by raising money for medical and other relief for Russia.

The CIO has arranged for sending relief abroad through the CIO War Relief Committee just established at 420 Lexington Ave., New York City. The Soviet Central Council of Trade Unions works with the CIO Committee. The Committee of course sends supplies to China and Great Britain also; but local unions who see the special importance of aid to the Russian people's Army should ask that their contributions be forwarded to Russia.

WORKERS' GOVERNMENT

It is up to workers particularly to give full support to the Russians simply because many rich people are prejudiced against the Russians. High society is not running big money raising affairs for unions anywhere, and certainly not for a workers' government.

A workers' country must get its backing largely from workers themselves.

Statement of this fact is not intended to caste a slur on those who choose to send relief to Great Britain and other countries. All of the United Nations need all the help they can get.

Neither is any slur intended upon those outside trade union ranks who do staunchly support Russia. Joseph C. Davies, ex-U. S. Ambassador to Russia and Edward C. Carter, Chairman of Russian War Relief Inc. are only two examples of those who, no matter what their opinions may be of trade unions or of workers' governments, work hard for aid to Russia.

IT'S OUR FIGHT

Like MacArthur, these people know that if the "courageous Russian Army" defeats Hitler on the Eastern front, this will be a mighty blow in our common fight to defeat Fascism; that such a victory would save Americans much suffering at home, and much dying abroad; that this would be a sharp set-back to the present very real threat of world fascist slavery.

Local unions which raise money for Russian Relief will be following a clear-headed trade union policy. Ask the CIO War Relief Committee to EARMARK YOUR CONTRIBUTION FOR RUSSIA.

UCAPAWA NEWS

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FACING OUR PROBLEMS

By
DONALD HENDERSON, *General President*

WORK! WORK! WORK!

1. Production Committees

Full strength of labor's energy, brains and initiative has been let loose by Production Chief Donald Nelson's call for heroic speed on the production battle front in the next 304 days, "those 304 days immediately ahead which can shape the whole course of history for a thousand years."

Nelson called for labor management committees to pitch in immediately to the job of seeing that every ounce of energy, every material, every machine is enlisted in this terrific race with time that we are entering.

Such an opportunity to throw our full energy and brains into the battle for our very existence is what the CIO has been crying for for months. When it came, President Murray went on to the radio and, speaking for us all, sent out the call to "work, work, work." Behind Murray's quiet words, "we are all soldiers of democracy," stand an army of staunch, intelligent, disciplined workers which will carry out this pledge to the full.

All UCAPAWA locals which work on war production if they have not already done so, should write Donald Nelson, War Production Head, Washington, D. C. immediately for a copy of the manual on labor-management production committees. Conferences with management should take place without delay to get these production committees into action in the next few days.

Ask Nelson also for a copy of his March 2 speech. Use and study this speech. Read it out loud in meetings. Post quotations from it on big signs.

The government has at last laid the concrete plans which will unleash "sweat and action on the production line" to match action on the battle line. If any "business as usual" managements try to stand in the way, they will be swept off their feet by labor and government. No one can be allowed to hamper in any way America's fight for a free life.

2. Community Production

Whole communities must organize for "Production, Now." Meetings of the "plain people" from the country-side and factories must be called together to work out community problems. CIO people should see that this is done.

Are your factories on a 168-hour week? Are small factory managers using their brains and will to get out essential goods? Are your farmers cooperating in the use of neighborhood farm machinery? Are those in distress due to priority unemployment getting aid?

Answers to these and a thousand and one other problems must be found by the average American citizen. We do not need to wait for blue prints and orders from above. Meeting together, we can find out what is going on in every nook and cranny of America. By working together, using our own good sense and initiative we can see that every community is solving the problems of production, and solving them fast and well.

American Tobacco Co. Rehires Chairlady

Philadelphia, Feb. 19.—The giant, multi-million dollar American Tobacco Co. was today forced by UCAPAWA to reinstate Mrs. Rose Melheisen, Shop Chairlady at their Henry Clay Bock plant in Trenton, N. J. Mrs. Melheisen's discharge and reinstatement is an important incident in the organizing drive of the Philadelphia Area Tobacco Workers Organizing Committee of UCAPAWA.

"Unorganized tobacco workers," said Donald Henderson, UCAPAWA President, "will now see clearly that UCAPAWA, backed up by Federal law, protects them against revenge by anti-union companies, no matter how big and powerful those companies may be."

HAD WORKED 10 YEARS

In spite of the antagonism of anti-union bosses, Mrs. Melheisen accepted the chairladyship of this plant at a membership meeting two weeks ago. The next day she was told by her foreman that her services were no longer needed. Mrs. Melheisen had worked for this company, in the same plant, for over 10 years. During this time there had never been any complaint about her work.

COMPANY STUBBORN

Going immediately into action, the UCAPAWA Tobacco Workers Organizing Committee gave Mr. Gold, American Tobacco manager in Trenton, an opportunity to straighten out this situation before taking action through the National Labor Relations Board. Mr. Gold refused to act.

On Wednesday of last week a UCAPAWA representative, together with Mrs. Melheisen, met with the NLRB to present data showing the anti-union actions of the company. Yesterday, Mr. Gold's secretary and a company foreman called on Mrs. Melheisen at her home and asked her to report back to work. Mrs. Melheisen was immediately reinstated.

DRIVE TO SIGN UP 10,000

UCAPAWA's tobacco drive in this area is going forward in this American Tobacco plant in Trenton, at the plant of the same company in Philadelphia, at Bayuk's and Consolidated Cigar in Philadelphia, and at Consolidated in Lancaster, Pa. A total of about 10,000 workers are employed in these plants.

WHY SHOULDN'T SHE LAUGH?: Mrs. Rose Melheisen after becoming union shop chairman, was discharged from the Henry Clay Bock plant of American Tobacco in Trenton, N. J.; but the day after charges were filed with NLRB, Sister Melheisen was called back to work.

Philly Drive Booms; AFL Steward Joins Up

By Edward Green, International Representative

Philadelphia.—Reporting progress in the organizing drive in five cigar plants in this area which employ a total of some 10,000 workers, John Tisa, chairman of the Committee said that, "With the development of the campaign in Lancaster and Trenton, the tobacco workers who said 'it can't be done' are changing their minds and getting down to the job in their own plants."

In Trenton, first round with the American Tobacco Co. there has been won with the reinstatement of the chief shop steward. (See column 1.)

In Lancaster, Pa. many new applications for membership in Local 638 of UCAPAWA's Tobacco Division show that the long, hard struggle of Consolidated Cigar Co. workers there for bona fide unionism is at last bearing fruit.

AFL WORKERS FLOCK IN

Action of Sister Bessie Metzger, former AFL Shop Steward, in joining up with UCAPAWA has been especially encouraging in Lancaster. Disgusted at the "do nothing tactics" of the Cigar Makers International Union, and anxious to improve conditions and wages, Sister Metzger decided that now is the time for action. Her "yeoman" work in the membership drive of Local 638 has done a great deal to bring closer the freedom of Lancaster workers from the AFL "ball and chain."

Setting of the election date by the NLRB for Consolidated workers is expected shortly.

"When we get Lancaster, which will be soon, it will be the second Consolidated plant to join with the CIO," Tisa pointed out.

"From there on we intend to push on relentlessly towards the goal of making every cigar plant in this area 100 per cent union, with good contracts and better working conditions in every plant," continued Tisa.

SEEK SWIFT SUCCESS

"Our organizing staff is putting forth every human effort possible to do this job quickly, in order to alleviate the bad conditions under which cigar workers are laboring today."

Besides Chairman Tisa, the organizing staff consists of Betty Shelton, and Edward Green, International Representatives, with many other volunteer members of the committee who represent plants already under contract with UCAPAWA.

Indication of the scope of the drive is the fact that over 60,000 pieces of literature have been put out by the committee, covering, in addition to the two plants named above, Bayuk's, Consolidated and American Tobacco in Philadelphia.

MELHEISEN TELLS OF FIRING

The Scheme Backfired. See Story, Column 1.

This is the sworn statement telling how she was fired, made by Rose Melheisen, shop chairlady for the Tobacco Workers Organizing Committee in the Henry Clay Bock plant of the American Tobacco Co. Since making the statement, Mrs. Melheisen has been reinstated to her former job in the plant.

I, Mrs. Rose Melheisen, 311 Virginia, Trenton, N. J., have been employed at the Henry Clay Bock plant of the American Tobacco Co. for the past 10 years as a conditioner.

BOSS CLAIMS HE IS "PAPA"

During December, 1941, the CIO started handing out leaflets. After Christmas, 1941, Mr. Albert Gold, Sr., head of the plant, talked to all employees over the amplifying system. He welcomed us all back. He said he was the papa and we were the children and we'd all have work together and told us "not to listen to outside propaganda."

ELECTED CHAIRLADY

I joined the union on Thursday, Jan. 29, 1942, when I went to the union meeting at Lorenzo's Cafe, Hudson and Mott Sts. This was the first meeting, but it was not an open meeting. The first open meeting was on Thursday, Feb. 5, 1942. I attended and was elected temporary chairman of the Henry Clay Bock plant.

GIVEN BAD STOCK

The next day I started to work and was given unusually bad stock. It was so bad I made only 28 lbs. in two hours when I usually make 56 lbs. with good stock. Tony, my assistant foreman, came up to me, looked at the stock and said that wasn't enough. I told him I knew it wasn't enough, but I couldn't give him quantity as well as quality on that particular stock.

BOSS CUSSES

Tony cussed me so much that I had to leave. When I left, I noticed that Mr. Gold was in the wrapper department. He called Tony over as I left. I went to the nurse who gave me aromatic spirits of ammonia, asked me what the matter was. I told her that Tony "was having one of his spells." She told me not to mind that. I told her I didn't as such events were a usual occurence. However, this was the first time that Tony had made as big a fuss as he did and it was the first time he had ever cussed at me.

GETS OUT PRODUCTION

As I went back Mr. Severio, my foreman, called me over and asked me what the matter was. I told him I was too nervous to talk. I told him that Tony hollered at me and used profanity and I had never heard him using profanity and didn't see why Tony should. He agreed with me and told me to do my best. I went back to work and got better stock and in the next two hours I did 56 lbs. Severio came over to me about noon, looked at my work and said it was O. K. Then Tony came and apologized to me.

FIRED AT END OF DAY

After lunch there was another argument at another table, during which I heard Severio say "There are a couple of girls in here who should mind their own business. They'd do me a favor if they'd leave." At 5 p. m. Severio called me into the office. He had records spread around him on his desk. He said he'd been looking over my record and found that I'd have to go because I hadn't been producing enough stock.

I asked him whether it had anything to do with the agreement. He said it hadn't. I then asked to see Mr. Gold. Gold said he'd have to look into the reason for my discharge and said he'd let me know and I haven't heard from him since.

(Signed) Rose Melheisen

Subscribed and sworn to
before me this 11th day of
February 1942.
Wm. Draper Lewis, Jr.
N. L. R. B. Examiner

Local Hangs Up Big Neon Sign

By Evelyn Marks, Press Agent.

Lima, Ohio.—Outside our new local hall we have a big neon sign which reads "UCAPAWA LOCAL 69, CIO" (Editor's note: Secretary-Treasurer Harold J. Lane reports that this sign is very handsome and impressive, right on the main street in Lima.)

Special thanks for work in fixing up the hall goes to Brother Henry Fellehaur who made all the new tables for the local, as well as giving a lot of other help.

BANG UP PARTY

Over 300 people attended our Get Together Party. Locals represented were: 461, Textile Workers; Locals 85 and 8, Rubber Workers, the latter from Akron; UCAPAWA Locals 69 and 70 of Lima and Local 71 of Van Wert; Locals 724, 763 and 911 of the Electrical Workers, the latter from Delphos, Ohio; and Local 46 of Columbus, Ohio.

Some 32 new members joined Local 69 during January.

MONTH'S PAY FOR THE BOYS

We have lost another one of our mechanics, Tom Schultz, who left for the Army. This makes three of our men who have answered the call to the armed forces. All receive one month's pay, thanks to the union.

Shop Steward Put Back to Work Pronto

By Mabel Walls, Press Agent

Van Wert, Ohio.—Our Local 71 chief shop steward here at the Deisel-Wemmer-Gilbert plant has been fired and rehired.

This girl was fired for doing the same thing all the girls around here were doing, that is, wiping off her machine. Grudges shouldn't be taken out on girls during working hours. This is what happened:

Fired on Friday morning.

Back to work on Monday morning.

This shows what working together and standing together means; unity being "all for one, and one for all."

Defense bonds went over 100 percent in the plant. Several of our boys in the plant are leaving for the Army.

NOW A SOLDIER, Tom Schultz, member of Local 69 in Lima, Ohio, was formerly a mechanic in the Northside Deisel - Wemmer - Gilbert plant. Thanks to the Union, all D-W-G workers receive one month's pay when they go into the armed service.

New Night Shift Joins Union

By Pearl Kopek, Pres. Dun Div.

Detroit.—Local 58, Deisel-Wemmer-Gilbert Division, with the assistance of Brother Bob Clark, is organizing other plants, as well as bringing in our new girls 100 percent.

The new night shift here at D-W-G joined the union without any fuss. I gave out application cards before the night shift started Friday and told them I would be back for the cards and money on Monday. It was all ready for me.

The new girls on day shift are also signing up good.

WORK ON OTHER PLANTS.

When I and my man passed out leaflets at the Jackman Cigar Mfg. Co., everyone took one and we expect a big turnout at the organizational meeting, which the leaflet announced. Brother Clark had a similar reception from the Essex Cigar Co. workers.

Organizer Joins Navy

"We certainly will miss our faithful and dutiful organizer, Mr. Himmaugh, when he goes to sea in the U. S. Navy. He is a wonderful organizer who has stood by us through thick and thin, and with the help of the Good Lord has helped us to win many hard battles," says Sister Della West, Chaplain of Local 577 in Richmond, Va.

Himmaugh, who volunteered for the Navy, will leave about April 1.

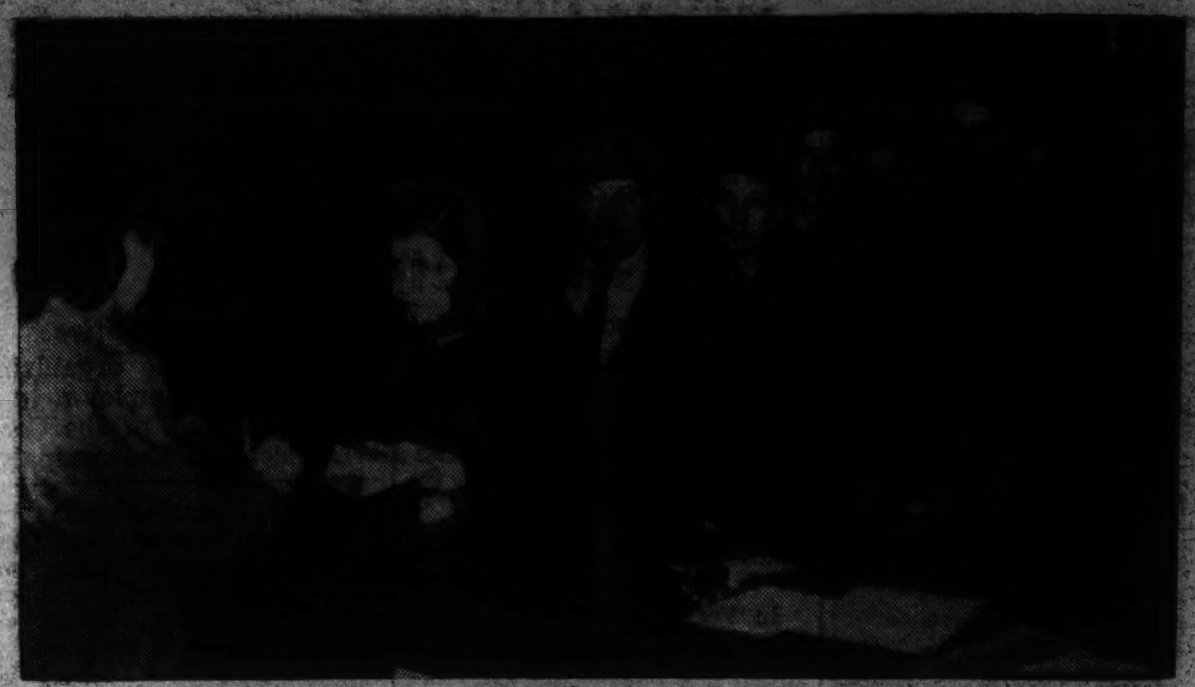
Newspaper Writes up Local Union Party

Van Wert, Ohio.—UCAPAWA members broke into the news in the Daily Times Bulletin here which wrote up the supper party held by Local 71 of Deisel-Wemmer-Gilbert.

The union hall was decorated, said the Bulletin, "to carry out St. Valentine Day ideas and appropriate motifs were used on the tables at which places were filled by 224."

"William Price, President of Local 71," continued the Bulletin, "introduced the guests, officers of other locals, which included Elizabeth Tarbutton, president of Local 69, Lima; Cecil Callahan, vice-president of Local 70, of Lima; Mr. Herschy, secretary of Local 44, Decatur, Ind.; Lee Carter of Lorillard Local 55 of Middletown and Ed Nix, UCAPAWA representative.

"Entertainment included an accordion duet, 'Remember Pearl Harbor' by Betty Fisher and Rachel Williams.



UNEMPLOYED DUE TO WAR CONDITIONS, auto workers line up in a Michigan Unemployment Commission Office. Urgent request of President Roosevelt and the CIO for money to give such workers more adequate unemployment compensation benefits was turned down by a Congressional Committee. CIO campaign for $300,000,000 for increased benefit payments, however, continues full force.

Murray Calls on CIO To Fight Unfair Taxes

Washington.—(FP)—Declaring that "a sound tax program is esential to the maximum war effort of the nation," CIO Pres. Philip Murray wrote to all CIO affiliates urging them to inform congress of labor's opposition to proposed sales or wage taxes and pointing out that needed war revenue can be collected from corporation taxes, higher income levies on the present basis, luxury taxes and closing of present loopholes.

"The only way to see that a sound tax program is enacted is by unceasing vigilance on the part of the working people of the country," Murray wrote.

"Tax bills are enacted in the midst of such a cloud of secrecy and speculation that only by the closest attention is it possible to keep track of what is going on.

DRIVE TO "SOAK LABOR"

"There is a subsantial group in the congress, aided and abetted by the Natl. Assn. of Manufacturers, chambers of commerce and other reactionary groups, which is anxious to have heavy sales taxes or wage taxes become the major source of revenue for the new tax bill. Such a program would be a most serious mistake.

POOR CANNOT PAY MORE

"It would on the one hand cut into the bare livelihood of the working people of the nation who will need all their present income and more to maintain themselves in health and efficiency. On the other hand, it would leave unscathed the excessive profits now being made by industries and by individuals."

Union Housewives Demand Rationing, Price Fixing

Announcement of the distribution of sugar rationing cards before the end of March was greeted by the Congress of Women's Auxiliaries of the CIO as an important step towards Victory. Auxiliary women realize that adequate nutrition and high morale are essential to speeding up production in war industry, and that fair distribution of scarce commodities through rationing is essential to maintaing high morale.

FAIR SHARE TO ALL

They also realize that all industry which is not necessary to supply essential consumer goods should be converted immediately to war industry. If consumer production is limited to just the amount actually needed by the people, there will be a danger of some people getting more than their fair share. Rationing is the answer to that problem, too.

The Executive Board of the Auxiliary Congress unanimously voted to urge extension of rationing to all goods in which there are shortages or expected shortages. They point out that only through rationing and sale of rationed commodities at a fixed retail price can we assure a fair share of the existing supply to each American.

PRICES MUST BE SET

To date, the Office of Price Administration has not moved to fix retail price ceilings except on radios. No word has been said about fixing the retail price of sugar when rationing begins. Consumers now are paying up to 10c a pound for this essential food. At that price there will undoubtedly be some families that won't be able to use all of their sugar coupons.

All auxiliaries are urged by the CIO Congress in the March 2 Washington News Letter to write at once to Leon Henderson urging the extension of rationing and fixing of retail prices.

ENGLAND HELPS BUYERS

In England, according to the British Ministry of Foods, a maximum retail price has been established on almost every important foodstuff. Rationing is now in force on bacon, butter, margarine, cooking fat, sugar, meat, tea, cheese, preserves, canned fish, canned meats, and canned beans. Clothing is also rationed.

The British government not only established retail price ceilings on most commodities, but also maintains certain basic foodstuffs at pre-war prices by means of subsidy. In other words, the government pays the difference between present production costs and pre-war costs, and the product is sold at the old price. Flour, bread, potatoes, eggs, meat and oatmeal are covered by this program which costs the British government $500,000,000 a year.

Aids Russian Relief

New York City.—Anthony Valentino, President of Local 80 in Camden, N. J. has accepted an invitation by Russian War Relief, Inc., to become a sponsor of their efforts to supply the Russian peoples with vital medical and surgical aid.

Brother Valentino told Edward C. Carter, President of the Russian Relief agency that "the Russians are fighting an heroic battle against Nazi invaders and they deserve all the help we can give them."

CIO Women Ask Day Care for Workers' Kids

Washington.—The new War Production Board policy of "immediate extension of defense training to women on a basis of equality with the training of men" approved on February 10, is a step which the Congress of Women's Auxiliaries has been urging as essential to all-out production for victory over the Axis. To the extent that this policy becomes practice, auxiliary women will be able to equip themselves to take their places in war industry.

This news underlines the importance of a national program for day-care of children which the CIO Auxiliary Congress has been stressing as essential to full employment of women in war industry. The experience of England shows the urgent need of this program.

CHILD CARE COSTS 30c

War-time nurseries for which the British Government assumes full financial responsibility is one of the solutions of the problem of day-care of children of working mothers there, according to a study submitted to the Tolan Committee by Alice Mendham, Chairman of the Washington, D. C. Emergency Committee for Day-Care of Young Children. The nurseries are open to children of all women who go out to work. Mothers pay about 30 cents a day for full-time care, including three meals.

The British Ministry of Labor has declared "the care of children is a national service," and a campaign for girls under 20 and women over 30 to take child-care training has been started. Students are paid and given room and board while studying.

U. S. Filipino Corps

In recognition of "the intense loyalty" of Filipinos in the U.S.A., the Army has formed the First Filipino Infantry Battalion.

Girls! Uncle Sam Gives Advice on Work Clothes

Washington.—Girls who work in factories can get the latest dope on pretty, safe and comfortable working clothes by writing for the free pamphlet "Safety Clothing for Women in Industry." Picture illustrations are included. Address your request to Mary Anderson, Director, Women's Bureau, U. S. Department of Labor, Washington, D. C.

TIPS ON PRETTY CLOTHES

It's not necessary to sacrifice charm and feminine appeal in order to be a safely clothed worker, the Bulletin explains. Tips on the best clothes to wear to work are included throughout.

Locals which would like to give the pamphlet to their women members can get a free supply simply by writing to the above address.

CIO Sends Gifts to U. S. War Prisoners

Washington—(FP)—CIO Pres. Philip Murray Feb. 28 announced that the CIO is sending, through the International Red Cross, a "bundle of necessities" to each of the 2,209 Americans now held as prisoners of war by the Japanese, as reported by the Army, Navy and Marine Corps this week. Among the prisoners are approximately 1,200 AFL building trades workers.

"The CIO is proud of the brave men, both those in uniform and those in overalls, who valiantly defended our Pacific outposts. The CIO is proud of these fellow workers who courageously upheld the best traditions of Americanism and American labor," Murray said.

Negro President Blasts Hitler

Washington.—One of the most powerful voices in South America speaking for unity of Negro people today in support of the United Nations' war against Hitler and his Axis partners, Italy and Japan, is the voice of Elie Lescot, Negro president of Haiti.

Speaking in Port-Au-Prince at a celebration marking the 138th anniversary of the Island Republic's independence, President Lescot said:

HITLER FOR SLAVERY

"The cause with which we have associated ourselves is also, and let us not forget it, the cause of the black race of which Haiti is the eldest born in the western hemisphere . . . In the concept of the Fuehrer, the Black Man is only destined for slavery and extermination. One should then understand why this people of three millions of Negroes, joins hands with the millions of other men of the same race who inhabit this earth . . . Our order of the day is to perish together or to save ourselves together."

FAITH IN VICTORY

"We have faith in the triumph of the United States of North America. We have faith in the triumph of the British arms. We have faith in the Soviet arms which God animates to crush the cowardly barbarians."

Hitler's Slave Labor

German factory workers will stay at their machines 16 hours a day from now on and will be fined if they fail to meet set production quotas, according to a Berlin announcement.

Workers in occupied countries have been ordered to migrate to German factories or starve.

WAR BONNET FOR JOSEPH STALIN is presented to Pres. Edward C. Carter of Russian War Relief by Chief Fallen Trees, Mohawk leader of the Indian Confederation in New York. Chiefs of tribes in North and Central America voted Stalin the outstanding warrior of 1941.

—From the Fur and Leather Worker.

A GUERILLA KITTEN operating on the northwest front in Russia has been honored by mention in dispatches. Living in a village behind German lines the kitten visits the Red Army trenches regularly for food. It occurred to the Russians to use the kitten to carry propaganda leaflets to the enemy. Soon the cat came back with a German deserter.

Hy-Grade Pact Again Ups Wages

New York City.—Local 105 has just signed its first contract with Hy-Grade Food Products, manufacturers of American Cheese, which provides wage increases ranging from seven to 11 cents per hour, union shop for present employees and other general improvements.

When UCAPAWA organization first started in June, 1941, the workers were granted an increase of seven cents an hour, according to International Vice-President Armando Ramirez.

Minimum wages are now 60 cents for men and 54 cents for women.

The company has agreed to meet again with the Committee within three months to discuss a complete union shop. At the present time only six workers are not members of the union. Within six months, further wage increases will also be discussed.

Members of the negotiating committee were Harry Feur, Herman Pachenked, Gladys Katz, Joseph Gordon, I. Greenberg and Ramirez.

Hy-Grade workers voted two-to-one for UCAPAWA in a Labor Board election late last December. Ramirez reports real union enthusiasm in this new group.

WOMEN MEMBERS of Local 194 in Chicago meet with Red Cross representatives to learn how they can pitch into Red Cross work—and get their union sisters to do likewise.

To Organize Red Cross Aid

By Jim Dimitrius, Press Agent

Chicago.—In two days of meetings, the women of Local 194 here met with representatives of the Red Cross to find out how they may help in their five-point program of aid to humanity, as follows:

1. Military and Naval Welfare service, by which aid is given to the soldiers, sailors and their families.

2. Disaster Relief.

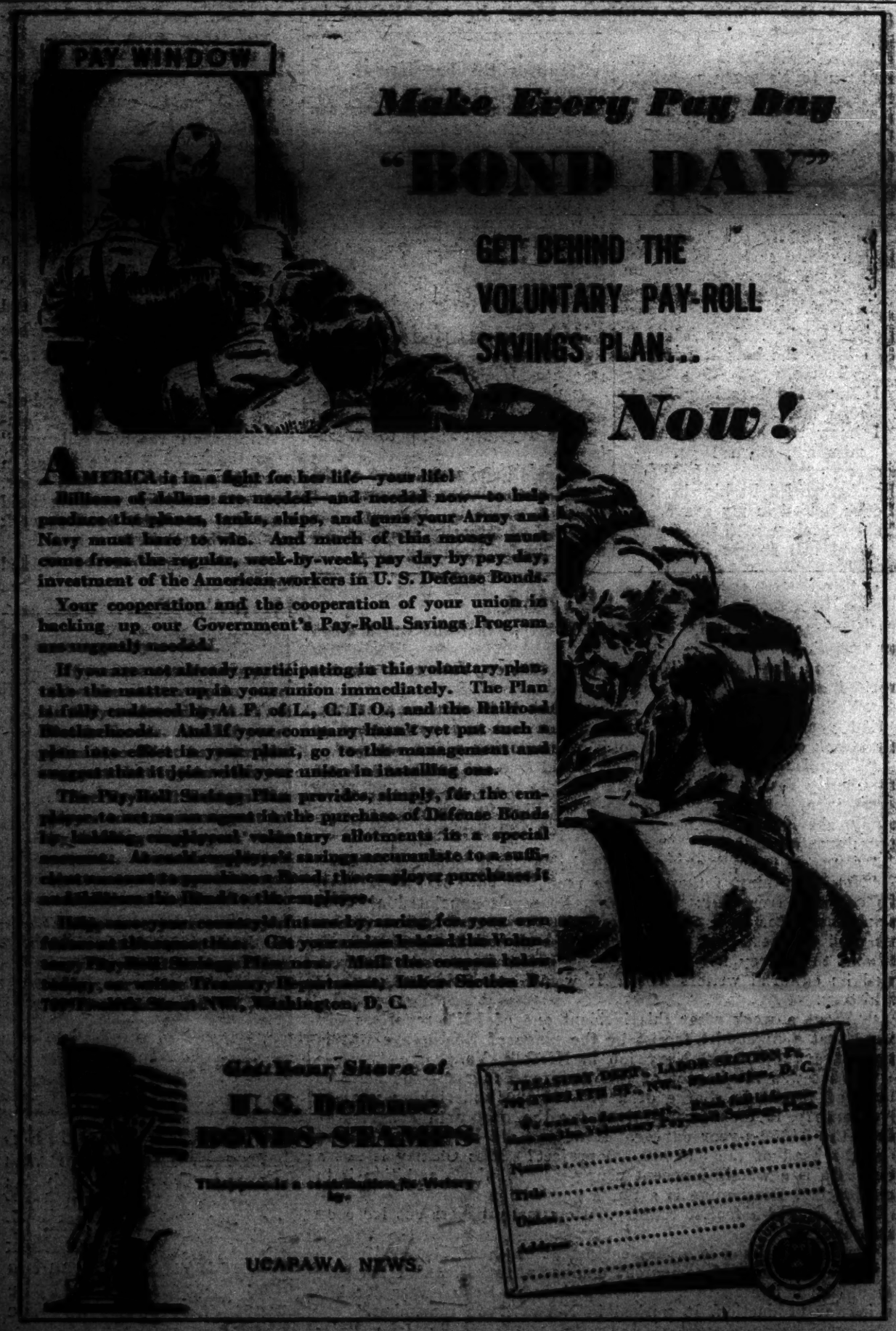
FIRST-AID IMPORTANT

3. Health and Safety Service which must be expanded so that there will be a trained first aid person in every block, community and village.

4. Volunteer Special Services must be expanded. More units to make surgical dressings, hospital garments and clothing. Each unit with a minimum of 20 members will be taught how to do the work.

5. Blood donor service.

Local 194 will endeavor to help. Each one has vowed to do his part and do it well.


PAY WINDOW
Make Every Pay Day
"BOND DAY"
GET BEHIND THE VOLUNTARY PAY-ROLL SAVINGS PLAN...
Now!
AMERICA is in a fight for her life—your life!
Billions of dollars are needed—and needed now—to help produce the planes, tanks, ships, and guns your Army and Navy must have to win. And much of this money must come from the regular, week-by-week, pay day by pay day, investment of the American workers in U. S. Defense Bonds.
Your cooperation and the cooperation of your union in backing up our Government's Pay-Roll Savings Program are urgently needed!
If you are not already participating in this voluntary plan, take the matter up in your union immediately. The Plan is fully endorsed by A. F. of L., C. I. O., and the Railroad Brotherhoods. And if your company hasn't yet put such a plan into effect in your plant, go to the management and suggest that it join with your union in installing one.
The Pay-Roll Savings Plan provides, simply, for the employee to set aside regularly the purchase of Defense Bonds by [illegible] voluntary allotments in a special account. As each employee's savings accumulate to a sufficient amount to purchase a Bond, the employer purchases it and delivers it to the employee.
Help your country to the future by saving for your own future at the same time. Get your union behind the Voluntary Pay-Roll Savings Plan now. Mail this coupon today to Treasury Department, Labor Section, [illegible] Street, N.W., Washington, D. C.
Give Your Share of
U.S. Defense
BONDS-STAMPS
This space is a contribution to Victory by
UCAPAWA NEWS
TREASURY DEPT., LABOR SECTION, [illegible] STREET, N.W., Washington, D. C.
Name
Title
Dept.
Address

Migrant Shed Workers Ask Priority on Tires

El Centro, Calif.—The fruit and vegetable "tramps" who pack the lettuce, carrots, cantalope and other vegetables and fruit from the rich valleys of the West have taken action thrpugh UCAPAWA to see that they will have tires so that they can get to work in the widely scattered sheds, to keep America's food supply rolling.

ARMY NEEDS FOOD

"The 2,500 members of our union, engaged in the packing of fresh fruit and vegetables, essential to the diet of both the armed forces and the defense workers of our country," wrote Dixie Tiller, UCAPAWA International Vice-President to Price Administrator Leon Henderson, "respectfully request adequate priority in the issuance of new or retreaded tires."

Tiller heads the big UCAPAWA shed organizing drive which is sweeping through the valleys.

TRAVEL CONTINUALLY

"Our members are migratory workers," Tiller explained to Henderson. "We are skilled workers . . . who are at present sorting, packing and processing lettuce, carrots, broccoli, romaine, peas, cabbage etc. in the Imperial Valley of California, and the Yuma and Salt River Valleys of Arizona."

"Soon this work will be finished," continued Tiller. "Some of us must go to Colorado, some to Salinas Valley, some to San Joaquin Valleys, from 750 to 1,000 miles from where we are now.

NO BUSSES TO SHEDS

"We have thoroughly explored the possibility of other means of transportation, none of which would be anywhere near adequate. Even though train or bus were provided for the long jumps, there still would remain the problem or transportation in outlying communities . . ."

". . . We know when the seriousness of our situation is brought to your attention, you will take the needed steps to see that our urgent request will receive the consideration it deserves," concluded Tiller.

Steward Tells Wage Gains of 13½–26 Cents

Camden, N. J.—Mike Tomasetti, a Shop Steward of Local 80 in Campbell's Soup plant keeps figures showing wage increases won by the union in his department.

When someone asks, "Why should I pay dues in the union?" Brother Tomasetti answers, "Ponder on these gains made by members in my department:

Name	Before Union	After	Gain
S. Macri	60c	84c	24c
N. Podor	63c	84c	21c
V. Nicoli	63c	84c	21c
L. Ricordi	58c	84c	26c
T. Egan	60c	84c	24c
F. Mullin	59½c	80c	20½c
J. Mascitti	63c	80c	17c
C. Luciani	63c	80c	17c
M. Broderick	67½c	87c	19½c
J. Pochay	60c	73½c	13½c
R. Williamson	60c	76c	16c
F. Kulski	60c	73½c	13½c
L. Drain	58c	80c	22c
L. Drost	58c	73½c	15½c
W. Corbett	63c	84c	21c
R. Dreker	58c	80c	22c
R. Lewis	58c	84c	26c
T. Finlin	58c	84c	26c

"Do you want to keep these gains?" concludes Tomasetti. "Then support your union by paying your dues and showing up at your departmental and membership meetings."

Soup Locals Stick Together

Local 194 (Campbell's Soup) in Chicago has pledged 100 percent support to Local 80 in Camden for their contract negotiations with Campbell's Soup there.

Local President on Defense Board

By Ruby Wilson, Sec.-Treas.

Elwood, Ind.—Avery Phipps, President of Local 32, Frazier Canning, is acting as a representative of Labor on the Civilian Defense Board here, which makes Local 32 proud. We feel Bro. Avery is very capable of filling this position.

Six representatives went to the Indiana conference to plan for extension of UCAPAWA organization in Indiana. Secretary Treasurer Harold Lane appointed three men to aid in the organizing drive: Bro. Steward, Bro. Lyle of Indianapolis and Bro. Fred Wilson from our local.

Local 32 delegates to the conference were: Avery Phipps, Fred Wilson, Ruby Wilson, Mike Brewer and Mr. and Mrs. Beal Huntsinger.

Train Union Wardens

Members of Local 58 in Detroit are signing up with Civilian Defense for training as air raid wardens. Classes will start March 16. Bob Clark, International Representative, reports that UCAPAWA members are determined to take full part in protecting their city.

Closed Shop in Second Denver Agreement

By Jack Fox, Intl. Rep.

Denver, Colo.—Climaxing a month long series of negotiations, a contract was signed with J. Zerobnik by Local 218 calling for wage increases of 5c per hour.

The patience of the negotiating committee was rewarded by the attainment of a closed shop and check-off. Seniority provisions, military clause, and grievance set-up were also included in the contract.

The members of the negotiating committee were Albert Torres, Charles Salazar and Ben Saavedra who in conjunction with the workers in the plant agreed that the contract was satisfactory.

ORGANIZE OTHERS

The workers in the plant are plenty hot for organization of other plants and already headway is being made in organizing plants in Denver by their "little organizing committee." Special mention should be made of the work of Ben Saavedra and Jack Eres along these lines.

The workers realize that they owe a lot to the struggle which the Friedman workers waged three months ago for a wage increase. They are resolved to continue organization of their Spanish-speaking brothers and sisters into UCAPAWA-CIO.

FIELD WORKERS' DIVISION

600 Spinach Workers Rally for Organization

By Donald Kobler, Int. Rep.

Mathis, Texas.—Over 600 workers turned out to attend a mass meeting held by Spinach Workers Union Local 87 here Sunday, at which P. F. Kennedy, Secretary of the Texas State Industrial Union Council, and Henry Weir of the Oil Workers International Uinon, were the main speakers.

Organization of Local 87 has focused attention on the miserable conditions under which agricultural workers in this area are forced to exist. Approximately 400 workers have signed up in the union, including field workers, truck drivers and packing shed workers.

FIGHT PAY CUTS

Workers are organized to restore a wage cut suffered by them when the F. H. Vahlsing Co. and Ave B. Katz reduced prices from 10c to 7c per bushel for picking spinach. (Editor's note: Pickers make only about $1.05 per day, as reported in last issue of the NEWS.)

STOP DISCRIMINATION

The local has already made great strides in eliminating discrimination practiced against the Spanish-speaking workers in this area. The management of the local theatre has given assurance to the union that Spanish-speaking people will be allowed to sit where they please and not be shunted into the poorest balcony seats as in the past.

WIN ENGLISH CLASSES

Another success was scored by Local 87 when the public schools opened night classes for field workers for instruction in English. Ninety-seven adults and children enrolled for the first class last week, with a local public school teacher donating his services for this project.

With widening community support, Local 87 is completing organization of truck drivers and packing shed workers to raise prices for work in the fields around Mathis.

REPRESENTING LABOR on the Government Industry Committee to set a minimum wage for the Grain Processing industry, Sellars Pittman, President of Local 90 leaves Houston, Texas, shortly for the hearing in New York City. The Committee is empowered by law to recommend a minimum wage of 40c an hour. Pittman is one of seven labor representatives appointed to serve. Several other UCAPAWA members are also included.

Battle for Better Pay At Big N. Y. Cemetery

By Armando Ramirez, Intl. Rep.

New York City.—By a vote of 165 to six, the workers at Greenwood Cemetery, members of Local 293, angrily refused to accept the company's proposal for a 30 cent a day wage increase and instructed the Committee to demand a higher increase, and in the event of refusal to call a strike.

After lengthy discussion in which the Committee proved that 30 cents a day increase would actually mean a cut, since cost of living has gone up more than that, management agreed to reconsider, and to take up the matter with the Board of Directors. Another meeting will be held with the union Committee shortly.

$13,000,00 CORPORATION

Greenwood Cemetery is the largest cemetery in the world, employing up to 250 workers. It is a non-profit making corporation that has accumulated during the years of operation over 13 million dollars. Now that the workers are facing a tremendous increase in the cost of living and are carrying on the patriotic duty of helping win the war by buying defense bonds and stamps, they are refused by this rich institution a fair increase that will give them a reasonable standard of living.

UNION WON'T BACK DOWN

As Representative of the International, I declared that "the Committee is resolved to appeal to all reasonable means and if necessary to place the full responsibility in the lap of the New York City authorities before a strike is declared, but under no circumstances will we recede in our determination to prevent the company from giving this group of splendid Irish-American workers such a small increase that it would actually be equivalent to a wage cut."

Fish Contract Ups Pay 90%

Chicago.—First contract betwen Hermax Fish Co. here and Local 1 increased wages by some 90 per cent. Men were raised from 40c to 76c, women who were getting 30c were raised to 48c, and the women who were getting 35c were increased to 55c.

"When unorganized fish workers hear of the wage, vacation and other provisions in this contract," said John Sopocy, International Representative who organized the shop, "they will have proof beyond question that UCAPAWA is the union for them."

VACATIONS, PAID HOLIDAYS

The Hermax contract calls for one week's vacation with pay for those who have worked a year or more, two weeks for those with two years' service, and three weeks' vacation for those who have worked five years or more.

In addition, there are six holidays for which "all regular employees shall receive full pay."

All work over eight hours in one day and 40 hours in a week, and all Saturday work is paid time and one-half. Sunday work pays double time.

Hermax manufactures pickled herring.

Planters Force 'Croppers to Pay Phony Dues

Memphis, Tenn.—Vigorous and thorough investigation by Congress of the Farm Bureau Federation's outrageous practice of forcing a check-off on sharecroppers in the South has been urged by International Representative Harry Koger in a letter to Sen. Robert M. LaFollette.

Expressing UCAPAWA's desire "to cooperate in every way in the investigation," Brother Koger told La Follette that he would "be glad to furnish affidavits from eastern Arkansas sharecroppers who are being forced to join the Farm Bureau against their will."

LANDLORDS THREATEN

"Certain landlords," continued Koger, "present the head of each sharecropper family with a membership card and deduct the annual fee from the sharecropper's portion at settlement time. A usurious rate of interest is sometimes added to the fee.

"When one of the victims, a Negro sharecropper, dared to refuse acceptance of his membership card, he was cursed and threatened with bodily injury by the landlord's agent.

"Although hundreds of Negro sharecroppers are forced to become members of the Farm Bureau by the above method, they are not permitted to attend meetings and have no voice.

CANNOT SELL COTTON

"It will also interest you to know that many eastern Arkansas sharecroppers are not permitted to sell their own cotton or place it in a government loan. Hundreds of them are forced to take whatever price the landlord sets—often several cents less per pound than the loan value."

Southern Locals Sing "O, Freedom"

Memphis.—Sharecroppers in the area all around here for some years have been singing "O, Freedom" under the leadership of International Vice-President Owen H. Whitfield and other UCAPAWA people. The song goes:

1. O, Freedom,
   O, Freedom,
   O, Freedom, after a while.

Chorus:
Before I'd be a slave,
I'd be buried in my grave,
Take my place with those who loved and fought before.

2 No more slavery,
No more slavery,
No more slavery, after a while.

Chorus:
Before I'd be a slave, etc.

3. I know the boss is going to miss me,
   I know the boss is going to miss me,
   I know the boss is going to miss me, when I go.

Chorus:
For before I'd be his slave,
I'd be buried in my grave,
Take my place with those who loved and fought before.

Local Urges Friendliness With Mexicans in California

Los Angeles.—Most recent move of Local 3 in its fight for a fair break for Mexican people and for solidarity of the Americas against the Axis powers is a Resolution asking that the "Carey McWilliams Plan" be established in California.

The plan calls for a competent committee to be given power to work for improvement of the conditions of the Mexican population of California which, the Resolution states, "is the largest single group of Latin-Americans residing in the United States and certainly a group that has contributed greatly towards the building of our country and in return has never received proper attention from the Government for its acute economic and social problems."

MUST BE FRIENDS

The Resolution points out that if we are to have a really strong united front against fascism we must practice a "real effective Good Neighbor policy of 'deeds,' and that 'the just and friendly treatment by our country' of the Mexican people right in California will be one good place to start being more 'neighborly.'"

California locals have been asked by the International to send similar resolutions in to Washington.

Octavio Cano is chairman of the Anti-Discrimination Committee of Local 3 which is tackling the problem of minority groups from every angle, including jobs.

ONE OF RUBE GOLDBERG'S INVENTIONS

LITTLE LUTHER

"I am not surprised," said Mr. Dilworth, "that she was shamed into resigning."

"If you are talking about Mayris Chaney, father, I am not surprised either."

"Well, well! I must say, Luther, that it is somewhat unusual to find you supporting our congressmen and our newspapers in their attack on the outrageous folly of employing a fan dancer."

"You misunderstand me, father. I said it is not surprising to see Miss Chaney resign, for I imagine she has more dignity and more interest in national unity than the great bulk of her critics. Incidentally, she is not and never has been a fan dancer. The newspapers invented that."

"You seem to think everything in the papers is invented, Luther."

"Not everything, father. Let me read you part of Ralph Ingersoll's editorial from PM: 'When Mrs. Roosevelt appointed a $4600 dancing instructor to a post in the OCD, the august houses of congress took the best part of two days off to attack the President's wife and to destroy her protege. The press, from coast to coast, turned its editorial writers loose. It was a sad little paragraph in our history.

"'About a week after this incident one of PM's reporters discovered that a nightshirt fascist by the name of Deatherage was in charge of a $25,000,000 Navy job in Norfolk, Va.

"'What was the impact of this news on congress—the news of an avowed fascist in charge of a $25,000,000 undertaking vital to our defense? It took two sessions for the enemy in congress to destroy the $4600-a-year dancer. How long did they spend getting rid of the head of the $25,000,000 project? Miss Chaney is not a fascist. She is a wholly innocent young woman whose ambition is to teach dancing. Deatherage is a tough guy whose ambition is to turn the U. S. A. into a fascist country. How many papers cut loose on Deatherage?'"

"Perhaps the man is a very competent engineer, Luther."

"Hitler has lots of competent engineers, father, and I am sure he would be delighted to supply us with more Deatherages for key jobs in war production. It worked in Norway, you remember."

—By John Paine

OUTSPOKEN FASCIST. George E. Deatherage was removed from his job as head of a $25,000,000 navy project in Norfolk, Va., by Sec. of the Navy Frank Knox after exposure in PM and in labor papers. ("Little Luther" also spoke up—see at left.)